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DOS Review Completed.

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FM THE SITUATION ROOM//TOHAK 158//

TO BREMER/COMPART FOR THE SECRETARY

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T O P S E C R E T SENSITIVE CONTAINS CODEWORD VIA 05970 WH43137

TOHAK 158

NOVEMBER 5, 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

FROM: THE SITUATION ROOM

SUBJECT: NOON NOTES

EGYPTIAN TRIAL FOR 95 IN PRO-LIBYAN PLOT: THE 95 PERSONS INVOLVED IN AN ATTACK ON CAIRO'S MILITARY TECHNICAL COLLEGE LAST APRIL AS PART OF AN ALLEGED PLOT TO KILL EGYPTIAN PRESIDENT SADAT WILL STAND TRIAL BEGINNING NOVEMBER 16, ACCORDING TO AN ANNOUNCEMENT FROM CAIRO. SHORTLY AFTER THE ATTACK, IN WHICH 11 PERSONS WERE KILLED AND 27 INJURED, SADAT PUBLICLY ACCUSED LIBYAN PRESIDENT QADHAFI OF PERSONALLY IN STIGATING THE COUP ATTEMPT. LIBYAN SOURCES DENIED THE CHARGE. THE EGYPTIANS, HOWEVER, APPARENTLY HAVE ENOUGH EVIDENCE -- INCLUDING A PURPORTED CONFESSION OF THE LEADER OF THE ATTACK -- TO CONNECT LIBYA TO THE PLOT.

SOVIETS CONSIDER SELLING GOLD IN IRAN: THE SOVIETS ARE REPORTED TO BE CONSIDERING GOLD SALES IN IRAN. THE USSR'S BANK OF FOREIGN TRADE RECENTLY ASKED [REDACTED] TEHRAN TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON THE IRANIAN GOLD MARKET. BECAUSE OF A FAVORABLE BALANCE OF PAYMENTS, THE SOVIETS ARE NOT PRESSED TO SELL LARGE AMOUNTS OF GOLD THIS YEAR, BUT HIGH PRICES APPARENTLY ARE PROMPTING THEM TO EXAMINE THE FEASIBILITY OF SELLING IN MINOR MARKETS LIKE IRAN.

THE SOVIETS RESUMED SALES IN LATE OCTOBER IN RESPONSE TO SHARP INCREASES IN THE PRICE OF GOLD. THIS IS THE FIRST REPORT OF SOVIET SALES SINCE THE FIRST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR, DURING WHICH [REDACTED] ABOUT 60 METRIC TONS OF GOLD, WORTH ABOUT \$300 MILLION, WERE SOLD. IN 1973, OLD SALES OF 300 TONS, WORTH ROUGHLY \$1 BILLION, WERE MADE ALMOST ENTIRELY IN ZURICH.

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

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INDOCHINA SITUATION: MULTIBATTALION GOVERNMENT CLEARING OPERATIONS IN THE SVAY RIENG AREA OF SOUTHEASTERN CAMBODIA HAVE REPORTEDLY INFLECTED HEAVY CASUALTIES ON THE KHMER COMMUNISTS. NEVERTHELESS, THE INSURGENTS ARE CONTINUING TO PRESSURE THE PROVINCIAL CAPITAL'S DEFENSIVE PERIMETER WITH GROUND AND SNELLING ATTACKS AND TO BOMBARD THE CITY ITSELF WITH 107-MM ROCKET FIRE. THE COMMUNISTS ARE ALSO MAINTAINING SPORADIC PRESSURE AGAINST THE DEFENSIVE PERIMETERS OF SIEM REAP, KOMPONG CHAM, AND KAMPOT CITIES, AND AGAINST THE GOVERNMENT ENCLAVE OF LOVEK NORTH OF PHNOM PENH. MILITARY ACTIVITY HAS BEEN LIGHT THROUGHOUT SOUTH VIETNAM FOR THE PAST FEW DAYS. THE GOVERNMENT DRIVE TO RETAKE SOME HIGH GROUND POSITIONS SOUTH OF HUE HAS NOT MADE MUCH PROGRESS, IN PART BECAUSE OF THE BAD WEATHER WHICH HAS BEEN IMPAIRING PREPARATORY AIR STRIKES.

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